

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Lisa Haile on April 21, 2010.

1. Please rewrite the following claims:

22. A method of obtaining a human embryoid body derived (EBD) cell comprising:

(a) culturing primordial germ cells in a media comprising human basic fibroblast growth factor and lacking leukemia inhibitory factor under conditions that allow formation of a solid or cystic embryoid body having a 3-dimensional morphology;

(b) disaggregating the solid or cystic embryoid body under enzymatic conditions to provide a constituent cell or embryoid body derived (EBD) cell; and

(c) culturing the EBD cell on a defined extracellular matrix,

wherein the EBD cell forms disaggregated single cells upon dissociation from embryoid bodies (EB) and proliferates for at least 30 population doublings without being immortal under the conditions of step (a).

27. The method of claim 22, wherein the matrix comprises one or more defined extracellular matrix components.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the one or more defined extracellular matrix components are selected from the group consisting of collagen I and human extracellular matrix extract.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the one or more defined extracellular matrix components are selected from the group consisting of collagen I and human extracellular matrix extract.

32. The method of claim 22 comprising culturing the EBD cells for at least 30 population doublings.

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35. The method of obtaining a human EBD cell of claim 22, wherein the enzymatic conditions include collagenase, dispase, or both.

36. The method of claim 22, further comprising expanding the EBD cells on one or more defined extracellular matrix components.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the one or more defined extracellular matrix components are selected from the group consisting of collagen I and human extracellular matrix extract.

2. The title has been rewritten as –Methods For Obtaining Human Embryoid Body-Derived Cells--.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deborah Crouch, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0727. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Fri, 6:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Paras can be reached on 571-272-4517. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Deborah Crouch/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1632

May 12, 2010